

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims in accordance with the following:

1-100. (CANCELLED)

101. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A point management system having a computer on a store side configured to manage service points issued to customers based upon customer's transactions, and connected via a network to a customer terminal on a customer side for performing transactions by a customer, comprising:

a point issuing part configured to receive a customer transaction information from the customer terminal for issuing the service points based upon a customer transaction;

a customer database configured to store current cumulative points in relation to each customer:

a point accumulation part, connected to the point issuing part and the customer database, configured to update points ~~[[to]]~~in the customer database based upon current cumulative points and the service points issued by the point issuing part;

a customer identification part configured to receive a customer identification information for a connection to the point management system from the customer terminal, and configured to identify the customer so that a customer transaction can be performed by the customer; and

a point sending part, regardless of the customer's request for sending points, configured to send the customer's current cumulative points stored in the customer database to the customer terminal via the network after identifying ~~[[of]]~~ the customer and prior to performing ~~transactions~~ the customer transaction by the customer.

102. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A point management system having a computer on a store side configured to service points issued to customers based upon customer's transactions, and connected via a network to a customer terminal on a customer side for performing transactions by a customer, comprising:

a point issuing part configured to receive a customer transaction information from the customer terminal and ~~issues~~ configured to issue the service points based upon a customer transaction;

a customer database configured to store current cumulative points in relation to each customer;

a point accumulation part, connected to the point issuing part and the customer database, configured to update points ~~[[to]]~~ in the customer database based upon current cumulative points and the service points issued by the point issuing part;

a customer identification part configured to receive a customer identification information for a connection to the point management system from the customer terminal, and configured to identify the customer so that a customer transaction can be performed by the customer; and

a point sending part, regardless of the customer's request of sending points, configured to send the customer's current cumulative points stored in the customer database to the customer terminal via the network after identifying ~~[[of]]~~ the customer and prior to performing ~~transactions~~ the customer transaction by the customer, and ~~configured to display~~ for displaying the customer's current cumulative points to the customer through the customer terminal.

103. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method performed by a point management system having a computer on a store side for managing service points issued to customers based upon customer's transactions, and the point management system connected via the network to a customer terminal on a customer side for performing transactions by a customer, comprising:

receiving a customer transaction information from the customer terminal for issuing the service points based upon a customer transaction;

updating points₁ based upon current cumulative points and the issued service points₁ ~~[[to]]~~ in a customer database that stores cumulative points in relation to each customer;

receiving a customer identification information for a connection to the point management system from the customer terminal, and identifying the customer so that a customer transaction can be performed by the customer; and

sending, regardless of the customer's request for sending points, the customer's current cumulative points stored in the customer database to the customer terminal via the network after identifying ~~[[of]]~~ the customer and prior to performing ~~transactions~~ the customer transaction by the customer.

104. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method performed by a point management system having a computer on a store side for managing service points issued to customers based upon customer's transactions, and the point management system connected via a network to a customer terminal on a customer side for performing transactions by a customer, comprising:

receiving a customer transaction information from the customer terminal for issuing the service points based upon a customer transaction;

updating points₁ based upon current cumulative points and the issued service points₁ ~~[[to]]~~in a customer database that stores cumulative points in relation to each customer;

receiving a customer identification information for a connection to the point management system from the customer terminal, and identifying the customer so that a customer transaction can be performed by the customer; and

sending, regardless of the customer's request for sending points, the customer's current cumulative points stored in the customer database to the customer terminal via the network after identifying ~~[[of]]~~ the customer and prior to performing the customer transaction transactions by the customer for displaying the customer's current cumulative points to the customer through the customer terminal.

105. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium having a program stored therein to cause a point management system having a computer on a store side for managing service points issued to customers based upon customer's transactions, and connected via a network to a customer terminal on a customer side for performing transactions by a customer, comprising:

receiving a customer transaction information from the customer terminal for issuing the service points based upon a customer transaction;

updating points₁ based upon current cumulative points and the issued service points₁ ~~[[to]]~~in a customer database that stores cumulative points in relation to each customer;

receiving a customer identification information for a connection to the point management system from the customer terminal, and identifying the customer so that a customer transaction can be performed by the customer; and

sending, regardless of the customer's request for sending points, the customer's current cumulative points stored in the customer database to the customer terminal via the network after identifying ~~[[of]]~~ the customer and prior to performing ~~transactions~~ the customer transaction by the customer.

106. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium having a program stored therein to cause a point management system having a computer on a store side for managing service points issued to customers based upon customer's transactions, and connected via a network to a customer terminal on a customer side for performing transactions by a customer, comprising:

receiving a customer transaction information from the customer terminal for issuing the service points based upon a customer transaction;

updating points, based upon current cumulative points and the issued service points, ~~[[to]]~~in a customer database that stores cumulative points in relation to each customer;

receiving a customer identification information for a connection to the point management system from the customer terminal, and identifying the customer so that a customer transaction can be performed by the customer; and

sending, regardless of the customer's request for sending points, the customer's current cumulative points stored in the customer database to the customer terminal via the network after identifying ~~[[of]]~~ the customer and prior to performing ~~transactions~~the customer transaction by the customer, for displaying the customer's current cumulative points to the customer through the customer terminal.

107. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The point management system according to claim 101, wherein said sending is executed without requiring receipt of a request for the customer's cumulative points from the customer and in response to said identifying of the customer.

108. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The point management system according to claim 101, wherein said sending is executed independent and separate from performing of the ~~transactions~~transaction and in response to receipt of said customer identification information.